

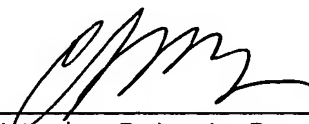
Remarks/Arguments:

Claims 1 and 4-9 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 4-6 and 8 are allowed. Claims 7 and 9 are rejected, but have been amended in this Response.

Claims 9 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicant has amended claims 7 and 9 to overcome these rejections. As suggested by the Examiner, claim 7 has been amended to clarify that the processing aid is graphite. The Examiner also suggested that claim 7 be amended to depend from claim 4, however, Applicant notes that claim 7 already depends from claim 4, as indicated in Applicant's Preliminary Amendment filed with the application. Claim 9 has been amended to more specifically recite specific reactions for which the process may be performed. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, in the originally filed application at page 1, second paragraph. No new matter has been added. Applicant asserts that one skilled in the art would know the reactants, products and reaction conditions for the recited reactions, without undue experimentation, and that claim 9, as amended, sets forth clear metes and bounds of the claimed subject matter. Further, Applicant notes that all of the recited processes employ copper catalysts and potentially suffer from the chloride poison alleviated by the claimed process.

Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that amended claims 7 and 9 in the above-identified application are in condition for allowance and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Dated: January 24, 2006

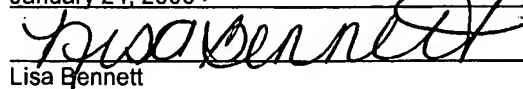
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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 18-0350 for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

January 24, 2006.



Lisa Bennett